



Ag 64
Attorney Docket No.: **43889-996**
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer No.20277
Keiichi KUSUMOTO, et al. : Confirmation No.: 8727
Serial No.: 09/712,247 : Group Art Unit: 2634
Filed: November 15, 2000 : Examiner: DAVID B. LUGO
For: SIGNAL TRANSMISSION CIRCUIT :

RECEIVED
APR 06 2004
TC 2600

ELECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 121

RECEIVED

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APR 06 2004

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed March 3, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire April 3, 2004, wherein the Examiner required restriction between the following distinct Species:

- Species I* - Synchronous signal transmission circuit configurations shown in Figs. 1-7, considered to read on claims 1-10;
- Species II* - Asynchronous signal transmission circuit configuration shown in Figs. 8-10, considered to read on claims 11-17; and
- Species III* - Asynchronous signal transmission circuit configuration shown in Fig. 11, considered to read on claim 18.

Applicants elect without traverse, Species I, with claims 1-10 readable thereon, for initial prosecution on the merits.

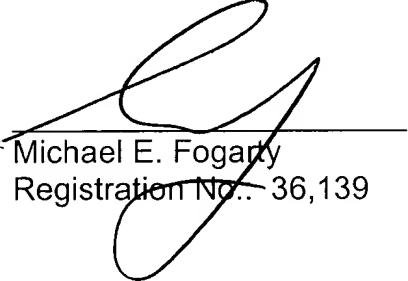
Applicants believe that no extension of time is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that Applicants have inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0417. A duplicate copy of this Response is enclosed for accounting purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

Date: 4/5/04

By:


Michael E. Fogarty
Registration No.: 36,139

600 13th Street, N.W., Suite 1200
Washington, DC20005-3096
Telephone: 202 756 8000
Facsimile: 202 756 8087

WDC99 904119-1.043889.0996